

FORTY-NINTH SEASON.

THE
Handel and Haydn Society

Will give ONE PERFORMANCE only of
M. COSTA'S ORATORIO,

ELI,

AT THE

BOSTON MUSIC HALL,

ON SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 27, 1864,

WITH THE GREAT ORGAN,

A LARGE ORCHESTRA,

AND THE FOLLOWING SOLOISTS:

Miss J. E. HOUSTON, Mrs. J. S. CARY,
Mr. L. W. WHEELER, Mr. J. J. KIMBALL,
And Mr. FR. RUDOLPHSEN.

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**CHARACTERS REPRESENTED.**

HANNAH, by.....Miss J. E. HOUSTON.  
SAMUEL, by.....Mrs. J. S. CARY.  
ELKANAH and SAPH, by.....Mr. L. W. WHEELER.  
MAN OF GOD, by.....Mr. J. J. KIMBALL.  
ELI, by.....Mr. F. RUDOLPHSEN.

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CARL ZERRAHN, Conductor. B. J. LANG, Organist.
WM. SCHULTZ, Leader of Orchestra.

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**TICKETS ONE DOLLAR EACH, WITH RESERVED SEATS.**  
**Doors open at 6 o'clock. Oratorio commences at 7.**



# COSTA'S ELI.

## PART FIRST.

### —\*—\*— OVERTURE.

*Recitative.* ELI.—Blow up the trumpet in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day. Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp, with the psaltery, for this was a statute for Israel, and a law of the God of Jacob.

#### *Solo and Chorus.*

Let us go to pray before the Lord,  
Let us go to seek the Lord of Hosts,  
Let us come before his presence, giving thanks,  
And make a joyful noise to him with psalms.

ELKANAH.—I will also go. [heart,  
I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole  
I will give Thee thanks, O Lord,  
I will praise Thee among the people.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof,  
the world and they that dwell therein.

*Recitative.* ELK.—Behold! I have brought  
the first fruits of the land, which thou, O Lord,  
hast given me.

ELI.—Let the people praise thee, O Lord;  
let all the people praise thee. Then shall the  
earth yield her increase, and God, even our  
own God shall bless us.

Cho.—God be merciful unto us, and bless  
us, and cause his face to shine upon us.

ELI.—The Lord bless ye and keep ye.

Cho.—Amen.

ELI.—The Lord lift up his countenance upon  
ye and give ye peace.

Cho.—Amen.

ELI.—The Lord make his face shine upon  
ye, and be gracious unto ye.

Cho.—Amen.

Cho.—Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth  
us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.  
Amen.

*Recitative and Prayer.* HANNAH.—Unto  
Thee. O Lord, do I lift up my soul; O my  
God, I trust in Thee; let me not be ashamed;  
let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon  
me, for I am desolate and afflicted. The  
troubles of my heart are enlarged; O bring  
thou me out of my distresses. O Lord, my  
God, I trust in thee.

*Rec.* ELI.—Woman, how long wilt thou be  
drunken? Put away thy wine from thee.

HAN.—No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord. Count not thy handmaid for a daughter of Belial; for out of the abundance of my grief and my complaint have I spoken.

ELI.—Go in peace, and the Lord God of Israel grant thee thy petition.

Cho.—The Lord is good; a stronghold in the day of trouble, and he knoweth them that trust in him.

*Rec. and Duet.* HANNAH and ELKANAH.

ELK.—Hannah, why weepst thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? Am I not better to thee than ten sons?

HAN.—My soul is cast down within me; my eye poureth out tears unto God; my tears have been my meat day and night.

ELK.—They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. Be comforted; hope thou in God.

*Duetto.* HANNAH and ELKANAH.

Wherefore is thy soul cast down, and why is it disquieted within thee? Hope thou in God, for thou shalt yet praise Him, who is the health of thy countenance and thy God.

*Rec.* ELI.—My sons! my sons! I cannot hold my peace; they make the Lord's people to transgress. If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him; but if a man transgress against the Lord, who shall entreat for him?

*Air.*—If thou shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

*Chorus of Levites.*—O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength. Bring an offering, and come into his courts.

*Corale.*—How mighty is Thy name,  
In all the earth, O Lord!

Thy praises all the heav'ns proclaim,  
And babes record

Thy wonders, night and day;

The moon and stars I scan;

And when the sun appears, I say,

"Lord, what is man!"

Great is the Lord!

*Rec.* MAN OF GOD.—I am come to sacrifice to the Lord a lamb without blemish.

*Chorus of Levites.*—Give flesh to roast for the priest; for we will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.

MAN OF GOD.—What evil thing is this that ye do? Why offer ye polluted offerings upon mine altar? saith the Lord of Hosts.

*Chorus.*—They have profaned it.

MAN OF GOD.—Ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi. Therefore the Lord has made you contemptible and base before all the people, and He will lift up an ensign to the nations afar. And behold they shall come with speed—quickly come.

*Chorus.*—We are become a reproach to our neighbors—a scorn and derision to them that are round about us.

*Solo and Chorus of Philistines. Tenors and SAPH.* *Basses.*

Philistines, hark! the trumpet sounding!

Make your shields and arrows bright!

Let your steeds and chariots bounding,

Speed you quickly on to fight,

War against the Israelite!

Cho.—Speed us, speed us on to fight,

War against the Israelite!

SAPH. Philistines, arm—prepare for battle!

Gath and Askelon unite.

Aphek, let your quivers rattle—

Men of might, come forth and fight!

War against the Israelite!

PRIESTS OF DAGON.

We have offered victims ample;

Dagon heard their dying cries;

Choral praises shook his temple,

Crown'd the votive sacrifice.

See! his glances in vivid flashes,

Darting through the gloom of night!

Hark! he speaks in thunder crashes!

Dagon's aid will crown the fight.

SAPH. War against the Israelite!







that dwell in Thy house, for a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

*The Evening Prayer. SAMUEL*

This night I lift my heart to Thee,  
Whose dwelling is in heaven above,  
O deign to hear and answer me,  
My Father—God of love!  
Art Thou not, Lord, in every place?  
Is there a thing beneath Thy care?  
Though angels only see Thy face,  
Yet Thou, O Lord, art everywhere.  
O give thine angels charge to keep  
Their wings spread over me this night;  
Let them defend me—let me sleep  
Till darkness melts in light.

Bless the Lord, my soul! and all that is within me, bless His holy name—bless—*(falls asleep.)*

AN ANGEL.—The Lord is thy keeper!

*Chorus of Angels.*

No evil shall befall thee,  
Dear object of his choice;  
This night our Lord will call thee,  
In a still, small voice.

Thy God saith, they that fear Him  
Shall heart and soul rejoice;  
Then sleep to wake and hear him  
In a still small voice.

*Rec. A MESSENGER.*—Woe unto us, for we are spoiled; Israel is smitten before the Philistines. They have slain of our army about four thousand men.

*Chorus with Solos.*—Woe unto us, we are spoiled! Wherefore hath the Lord smitten us to-day before the Philistines?

Let us take the Ark of the Lord out of Shiloh to the camp; then when it cometh there it may save us from the hands of our enemies.

O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness, the earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God; even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel. Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather us together; save and deliver us from the heathen!

*Rec. ELI.*—When shall I arise and the night be gone? I am full of tossings to and fro, unto the dawning of day. Horror hath taken hold upon me, because the wicked forsake Thy law.

SAM.—My father, here am I.

ELI.—I called not; lie down to sleep again. When I say, my bed shall comfort me; my couch shall ease my complaint; Thou scarest

me with dreams, O God, and terrifiest me through visions.

SAM.—My father, here am I, for thou didst call.

ELI.—I called not, my son, lie down again. God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not—in a dream—a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth down on men.

SAM.—Here am I; for thou didst call me, "Samuel, Samuel!"

ELI.—God in his holiness hath spoken. Go lie down again, and it shall be if He call thee, that thou shalt say, "Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth."

SAM.—"Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth."

ELI.—The Lord hath revealed himself to him. God spake to Jacob in a dream by night. My heart panteth, my strength faileth, the light of eyes is gone!

I wait for the Lord; my soul doth wait, more than they that watch for the morning. Samuel! Samuel, my son!

SAM.—Here am I, my father!

ELI.—What is the thing that the Lord has said to thee? I pray thee, hide it not from me; May God do so to thee, and also more, if thou hide anything from me of all that He hath said to thee.

SAM.—The Lord said; "Behold, I will perform against Eli all I have spoken concerning his house. For I have told him, that I will judge his house for ever, for the iniquity he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not."

ELI.—It is the Lord! Let Him do what seemeth Him good.

What meaneth the noise of this tumult?

SAM.—Israel is fled before the Philistines; and there has been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons, Hophni and Phineas, are dead!

ELI.—And the Ark—the Ark of God?

SAM.—The Ark of God is taken!

*Chorus.*—Help! help!

SAM.—There is no help for him. Eli is dead!

*Chorus.*—The glory is departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken!

SAM.—Blow the trumpet; sanctify a fast, and call a solemn assembly! Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar: for thus saith the Lord, "Turn ye even to me with all your heart; with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning....then will the Lord be jealous for His land, and pity His people."

*Chorus.*—Blessed be the Lord, the Lord God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Hallelujah! Amen!